

WOMAN VOTERS

Editor Times: Please print the following from the Pennsylvania Grit. It may be that Brother Blake may read it, and be enlightened thereby.

J. M. Chappell,

Renicks Valley.

By Lewis E. Theiss

To vote or not to vote is no longer the question among the women of the country. Now that the suffrage amendment has passed Congress and has already been ratified by almost the necessary number of states, the matter is settled. It is now purely a question of time until all our women are entitled to vote. The question that interests Americans, then, is no longer whether the women shall vote or shall not vote, but how they will vote.

Fortunately the question is more easily answered than might at first be supposed; for in the Far West women have been voting for many years. What they have done there furnishes a fair edition of what they may be expected to do generally. And this is true because in both East and West the women have gone through the same sort of preliminary training. Just as our national army, trained in many different cantonments in as many different parts of the country became, through similar drill, one great fighting unit, so the women, similarly drilled in their various local campaigns for the ballot, may assuredly be expected to form one vast army of voters. The best exposition of how the women will vote, then, will be found in an examination of what the eternal feminine has done with the ballot in the past.

Opponents of equal suffrage have solemnly assured us that to allow women to vote meant the ruin of the home, the degradation of women, etc. If we glance at an election day in the Far West, we shall see whether or not this charge is true. For instance take San Francisco, which is rated as being as care-free, irreligious, and immoral as any of our cosmopolitan centers of population. What happened there on the first day when California women cast their first ballot—on the day of President Wilson's first candidacy for the presidency? As an eye witness of those occurrences, I write from actual observation, not from hearsay.

On that first election day for California women, the streets of that roaring city of San Francisco lay dumb. The stores were closed. Even the saloons, which ordinarily were open 365 days in a year, were shut tight. A Thanksgiving day in New England could not have been more solemn and still. At polling place after polling place one found not the slightest semblance of disorder or anything distasteful. There was nothing rude or boisterous, or discourteous on the part of men toward the women voters, and nothing on the part of these voters that was unladylike or militant.

There were 600 polling places within the city. In these polling places 1,200 women were on duty as election clerks. The result was astonishing. No filthy cuspidors were in evidence, no stifling stale tobacco smoke clouded the places, no intoxicated men made themselves offensive. But there was decency and cleanliness—the same decency and cleanliness that women instill into everything they touch.

In short, the polling places, so long offensive to the clean-minded, had suddenly become as decent and proper as a court room or a post office or any other place where important public business is transacted.

To these voting booths men and women, and not infrequently men and women as here in the East, they go separately or together to the grocery store or the church. Everywhere one

saw women with baby coaches, giving the babies fresh air while the mothers went to vote. Not infrequently one saw husband and wife with a baby coach strolling toward a polling place. And many were the perambulators standing in front of the voting booths, while the mothers were inside the booths voting to protect the occupants of these perambulators.

For in this election, as in every election, there were things before the voters that touched the welfare of every household. In this case the matter that most deeply agitated the women was a trick bill to license race track gambling. This bill was a mass of intricate verbiage, so worded as apparently to forbid gambling, but in reality it was meant to legalize it. Well did the women know what legalized gambling meant to their homes and their children. When they were instructed, through the medium of the women's political organizations, as to the real nature of the bill, they registered in droves and voted as a unit against the measure. They did more. They worked against it. And by their work and their vote they disproved the assertion that giving the women the ballot means simply to double the vote. There was no division of the women on the gambling bill.

The war has given us a new standard of public service by women. We have become accustomed to Red Cross drives, Liberty bond campaigns, soldier welfare efforts, and similar movements in which the women took a part equal with the men and in some cases an even more important part. That was one of the blessings of the war. It put men and women exactly where they belong—shoulder to shoulder in the movement for the common good. That is where the women voters intend to stand in the political efforts of the future. They intend to bear their share of the burden. San Francisco women showed this on the first election day.

It was the same way in Washington state when the women regained the ballot. I say regained because years ago they had the right of suffrage. By Court decisions that was taken away from them. But in 1910 through the wonderful leadership of Mrs. Emma Smith De Voe, the women of Washington regained, and for all time, the right to vote. The very first thing they did with their ballots was to clean house.

Seattle, the leading city in the state, was at that time a stench in the nostrils of decency. Corrupt city officials had actually leased a city street to a vice syndicate for the erection of an enormous house for immoral purposes. The first thing the women did was to clean up the city.

Four years previously, largely through the efforts of Miss Adella Parker, a teacher of civics in a Seattle high school, a recall law had been placed upon the municipal statute books. Now this was called into use. A recall petition was started. To secure a recall election, it was necessary that one-fourth of the city's voters sign the petition. To secure these signatures was no simple task. This viceroy was firmly in the saddle. Should an election be held and the recall effort fail, the city officials would have it in their power to make it unpleasant for those who had signed the recall petition. A month passed and relatively few signatures were secured. Then the women appointed 400 canvassers. Ward captains directed the work. Placards were hung in stores, offices and homes urging passersby to sign the recall petition. Next the labor unions, the Y. M. C. A., and some of the churches enlisted in the movement. In spite of all this organized effort, signatures came slowly. It required more time and a half month of strenuous work to secure the necessary signatures. Only the devotion of

the women made this possible. Then the petition was duly filed, and the special election took place 50 days afterward.

The campaign that the women carried on in those seven weeks fairly stunned the old line politicians. Of the 23,000 women who registered 22,000 voted. Only 45,000 of 49,000 men cast their ballots. Most interesting was the fact that 80 per cent. of the woman vote was cast by married women. They were out to protect their sons and daughters from the awful evil that had smitten the city. And they did it. Mayor Gill, who had been elected by 4,000 votes, was recalled by a majority of 6,000 votes. When Gill was elected, his opponent received 14,000 votes. In the recall election Gill's opponent received 38,000 votes—an increase in the anti-Gill vote of 22,000 votes, which was almost exactly the number of votes cast by the women. Gill and his associates were swept out of power, a new council was seated, and the city was redeemed.

Across the border, in Idaho, the woman voters have played a big part in the constructive work of the state. Their first united political effort was to secure public libraries. At that time the state of Idaho, which is larger than all of New England and half as large again as New York, had fewer than 162,000 people. Cities were few in number and small in size. The population was scattered over this vast area in small groups and tiny communities. There was desperate need of books, but there was not a free library in the state. The call for money for the necessary development work, such as the making of roads, bridges, public buildings, etc., was tremendously heavy. There was no one to be had from the state legislature for such things as books, necessary though they were.

The women realized this, and out of that realization was born their "demonstration method" of political procedure. They set about providing the books themselves. By personal contributions and through gifts secured, they soon had 500 books and the necessary traveling cases for them. At their own expense the women for two years sent these books into every nook and corner of the state, into isolated farming communities and rugged mining camps. Then they appealed to the state legislature to create a state library commission and a free traveling library, and to pass a law enabling towns and cities to levy taxes for library purposes. So great was the demand for books, created by the two year campaign of the women through their traveling library, that the bill speedily became a law.

Today practically every community in the state with 1,000 population or more has its own reading room, where the cases for the traveling library are housed and where the community keeps its own books. Now the state appropriates thousands of dollars each year for new books, with additional sums for expenses.

Having made it possible to get books to read, the women were desirous that every child in the state should be able to read them. They secured the passage of a compulsory education law. By their demonstration method the women of Idaho have secured mothers' pensions, probation officers in the juvenile courts, splendid homes for the state Home Finding society, and many other things helpful for Idaho.

One of these laws was a measure to protect the children from exploitation in factories. Only a woman's wit made this possible. In Idaho the Mormons held the balance of power and they did not believe in prohibiting child labor. Mrs. Eva Hunt Dockery, who, as a member of the staff of the Idaho Daily Statesman, has been very influential in all movements for betterment, went to

the Mormon leader who was blocking the bill.

"We are going to print a rogues' gallery," she said, "and publish the names of all the men who oppose this bill."

"You women beat the deuce," was the Mormon's reply.

Later in the session he sent for Mrs. Dockery. "Are you in earnest about that rogues' gallery?" he asked. "Certainly," said Mrs. Dockery. "The women voters of Idaho are very much interested in this bill. They are entitled to know who votes against it."

"I don't want to be in it," said the legislator, "yet I don't like your bill. I think children ought to work. Can't you leave me out?"

"I am sorry," said Mrs. Dockery, "but the list must be complete."

"Will you let me out if I vote for your property rights law?"

"No. We think the child labor law is more important."

Next day this man lined up his nine votes for the child labor law and carried the bill.

"It's no use," was his comment. "You can't beat these women."

Once they are aroused, you cannot. And the reason is that the women voters believe the home extends beyond four walls, and that whatever affects the community or the commonwealth affects the home. In affairs that affect the home women rightly feel that they should have a voice equal with their husbands'. Perhaps the position of the women who vote and will vote cannot better be expressed than it was by Miss Margaret Roberts, The Idaho state librarian.

In Idaho we women don't want to take the places of men. They are busy developing the country. We want to see that the homes and the children are properly cared for. To do that we need the ballot. Nothing puts the fear of God into the hearts of men like the ballot in the hands of good women."

ARE WE OVERWORKED OR WHAT?

Benjamin Franklin, a century ago, believed what we now know to be true, "that people who live in the forest, in open barns, or with open windows, do not catch cold, and that the disease called 'a cold' is generally caused by impure air, lack of exercise or overeating."

"Most people who are 'overworked' are more properly speaking, simply the victims of bad air, bad diet, poisons, or worry. They believe that because they are tired, it is overwork that is hurting them.

Physicians of wide experience have men and women coming to them every day broken down in health, telling them that they have overworked; and yet on questioning them it is found that none of them work as hard as the physician whose aid they seek. Their breakdown is due to the terrible load of unphysiological habits which they are carrying—a load so great that scarcely any work can be carried in addition.

There may be unhygienic conditions equally responsible for these symptoms and the correction of which may produce wonderful improvement. Vertigo may be due to eye strain. Diabetes may be aggravated by too much sugar. Rheumatism may be caused by infected teeth and tuberculosis by indoor living, bad diet, lack of exercise or wrong posture; but the social evil must be fought not only by direct attack on prostitution, but by appeals to self control and moral ideals, and by repressing such habits as produce abnormal desires and reduce the will power.—U. S. Public Health Service.

W. A. BARLOW
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WRITTEN to his son
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CHESTERFIELD stands for tobacco well-bred and well-bred, for care and skill in their selection and blending, for those things that, in a cigarette, are marks of quality and good taste. And never was any cigarette better named.



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Notice

If you have old bee combs or wax bring me or send by mail, get cash and postage.
L. O. SIMMONS,
Marlinton, W. Va.

The Greenbrier Studio

MARLINTON, W. VA.
The Greenbrier Studio has been moved to the old Grover Stand next door to Collins Jewelry store. Will be pleased to have you call there for anything photographic, also framing, enlarging and kodak finishing.
Respectfully,
HARRY STALEY,
Box 65, Marlinton, W. Va.

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KILLS RATS
Also mice. Absolutely prevent odors from carcass. One package proves this RAT-SNAP catches no mice, no mixing with other foods guaranteed.
25c size (1 cake) enough for Pantry Kitchen or Cellar.
50c size (2 cakes) for chicken house, coops, or small buildings.
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for Croup, Colds and Pneumonia. It's a liquid and absorbs like magic. For sale at all druggists.
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For Sale

A limited number of pure bred Hampshire sheep of both sexes for breeding purposes. For further information call at the farm or write Monroe Beard, Arbovale, W. Va. Shipping point, Cass, W. Va.

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H. G. Lucas, General Supt.
Clinton Decker, Logging Supt.

Notice to Bridge Contractors

Sealed bids will be received by the undersigned at his office in the Court House of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, until noon on 28th day of June, 1920, for the erection of two reinforced concrete bridges across Locust Creek, in the Levels District of said county, above Beard's Mill creek. Said bridges to be about 50 feet long with a fourteen foot road way. Each bidder to furnish his or their own plans and specifications. A certified check of \$500 dollars to accompany each bid, as an earnest of complying with contract. Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
By order of the County Court,
S. L. BROWN, Clerk.

Threshing Outfit For Sale

I desire to sell my half interest in a modern threshing outfit, consisting of a Red River Special separator run two seasons and a 10-20 Titan Tractor run one season. This outfit has done a profitable business, but other things demand my time.
O. W. JACKSON,
Marlinton, W. Va.

For Sale

Good nine room house, large lot, garden and necessary outbuildings, at Minnehaha Springs. If not sold at once will rent for the season.
M. F. HEROLD,
Minnehaha Springs, W. Va.

Dodge Car for Sale

Five passenger, good as new, bumper chains and license. Apply at once to Wise Herold, Marlinton, W. Va.

Administrator's Notice

Notice is hereby given to all parties holding claims against the estate of J. D. Barlow, deceased, to present the same proven according to law to the undersigned administrator at his office at Onton, W. Va. All parties owning said estate will prepare to settle at once.
This 13th day of May, 1920.
Geo. A. C. ALDRIDGE,
Administrator Estate of J. D. Barlow, deceased.

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The complete Electric Light and Power Plant

The Delco-Light storage battery is dependable, durable and efficient.

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NO MORE RATS

or mice, after you use RAT-SNAP. It's a sure rodent killer. Try a package, and prove it. Rats killed with RAT-SNAP leave no smell. Cats or dogs won't touch it. Guaranteed.
25c size (1 cake) enough for Pantry Kitchen or Cellar.
50c size (2 cakes) for chicken house, coops or small buildings.
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Ward Realty Company Marlinton, W. Va.

This is a partial list of the many valuable farms and cut over land we have for sale.

100 acres cut over land, 18 acres in cultivation, 6 room dwelling, barn, fertile soil, one mile from railroad station. Price \$1500.00 on easy terms.

One acre, good 8 room dwelling, water in house, good barn. 152 acre cut over land, about one-third mile from acre tract, close to school, church and depot. Price \$2800.00.

53 acres, under good cultivation, good barn, new silo, four room dwelling, good orchard, convenient to school and church, price \$4200.00.

2046 acres, rich land, 100 acres in sod, remainder in timber of young growth, price \$12.50 per acre, on easy terms.

House and two lots in Campbelltown, price \$575.00.

229 acres, limestone, bluegrass farm, large cattle barn, new silo, good young orchard, good dwelling, price \$10,000.00 easy terms.

233 acres, rich land 120 acres improved, good building, convenient to school and church, price \$6,850.00.

210 acres, rich land, 30 acres river bottom, good water, 50 acres improved, good dwelling and barn, about one mile to railroad station, price \$3800.00.

130 acres, near railroad station, good buildings, young orchard, price \$5,000.00.

"Temporary Court House" in Town of Marlinton, price \$5,000.00.

Lot 6 & 7 in Block 23, Town of Marlinton, large dwelling, price \$2300.00.

75 acres, rich land 50 acres improved, good buildings, two orchards, close to school, price \$2,850.00.

100 acres cut over land, near railroad station, price \$3.00 per acre.

200 acres, limestone, bluegrass land price \$9,000.00.

212 acres, 100 acres in grass, 5 room dwelling, good limestone grazing land price \$8,000.00.

544 acres, rich land, containing about 1,500,000 feet of hard wood, about 3 miles from depot, would make splendid grazing land, price \$8.00 per acre.

Good house and lot in Marlinton, price \$7,500.00.

91 acres of grazing land, good orchard, two barns, dwelling, good water, price \$4,200.00.

If you want to sell your land, timber, or minerals list them with us.
WARD REALTY CO.
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